Minutes of Land Use, Parks and Environment Committee Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Chair Fritz Ruf called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Present: Supervisors Fritz Ruf (Chair), James Jeskewitz, Walter Kolb, Ted Rolfs, Janel Brandtjen, Gilbert Yerke. **Absent**: Supervisor Rob Hutton

Also Present: Chief of Staff Mark Mader, Legislative Associate Karen Phillips, Planning and Zoning Manager Dick Mace, Land Resources Manager Perry Lindquist, Parks and Use Director Dale Shaver, Interim Public Works Director Allison Bussler.

Approve Minutes of April 21, 2009

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, second by Kolb, to approve the minutes of April 21, 2009.

Motion carried: 6-0.

Future Meeting Date

• June 2, 2009

• June 16, 2009

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Update

Shaver distributed a handout titled *U.S. Department of Energy – National Energy Technology Laboratory Recovery Act – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants*. In accordance with the funding formula, Waukesha County has been allocated \$2,217,900. Shaver explained that the grant application is due June 25, 2009; the allocation could be received as soon as August 2009. All funds must be committed within 18 months of the effective date of the award, and all funds must be expended within 36 months of the effective date of the award. If an Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy is submitted with the application, up to 50% of the total allocation would be received upfront. Shaver said that Waukesha County would submit its Sustainability Plan for that purpose. Shaver continued by explaining the use of funding for the establishment of revolving loan funds. He explained that in concept, a portion of the money would be used to create a revolving loan fund and form a partnership with business entities in the County. For example, if a business entity wanted to drive down their energy costs by upgrading lighting, the revolving loan fund would offer the business a loan to do the work. The loan would then be repaid based on the energy savings, or return on investment. Bussler said they are looking at developing a mentoring program, where large business would show the medium and small businesses how to develop their own energy saving projects.

Brandtjen expressed her concern about the County getting into the banking business. Bussler assured her that only 20% of the total allocation would be used for the revolving loan program. Shaver stated that public funding safeguards would be in place. Bussler and Shaver answered questions of the Committee members as discussion continued on this issue.

Ruf asked what types of specific projects are being considered. Shaver explained that they are working on a package to include most elements of the Sustainability Plan for energy conservation. Such projects include lighting, solar, geothermal (at the Retzer Nature Center building), energy capture on compressors, water conservation toilets/plumbing upgrades (especially in the City of Waukesha due to the high cost of water). Shaver and Bussler will continue to update the Committee as this project progresses.

Discuss and Consider Resolution 164-O-013: Amend The District Zoning Map Of The Town Of Eagle Zoning Ordinance By Amending The Conditions Of Enrolled Ordinance No. 162-114

(SZT-1669) For Certain Lands Located In Parts Of Section 1, T5N, R17E, Town Of Eagle (SZT-1669A)

Mace explained the location of the 210.3-acre property in the Town of Eagle. A condition of the original ordinance required that improvements to the property would need to begin within three years of the date of approval, which was March 25, 2008. This resolution proposes to extend the original requirement of three years to five years, due to the downturn in the economy and the fact that there is very little development occurring in the community. The land will continue to be farmed until the project is ready for development.

MOTION: Yerke moved, second by Jeskewitz, to approve Ordinance 164-O-013. Motion carried 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-014: Amend The Waukesha County Shoreland And Floodland Protection Ordinance District Zoning Map Of The Town Of Mukwonago And The Town Of Mukwonago Zoning Ordinance By Conditionally Rezoning Certain Lands Located In Part Of The NW ¼ Of Section 35, T5N, R18E, Town Of Mukwonago, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, From The R-2 Residential District (Town And County) To The R-3 Residential District (Town And County) (SZT-1686)

Mace explained the area to be rezoned consists of two legal lots (Lots 26 and 27) and approximately one-half of a third legal lot (Lot 28) in the Phantom Lake Woods Subdivision in the Town of Mukwonago. The property contains a single-family residence, and there would be no change in the use of the property. The rezoning would create a single conforming lot. The remainder of the third lot (Lot 28) would be combined with two adjacent lots to the east (Lots 30 and 31), also containing a single-family residence, to create another conforming lot. The rezoning is in conformance with the Waukesha County Development Plan and would resolve a long-standing violation of the Town of Mukwonago Zoning Ordinance.

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, second by Kolb, to approve Ordinance 164-O-014.

Motion carried: 6-0.

Update on Deer Donation Program in Waukesha County

Lindquist explained that since the 1930's, the DNR has reimbursed farmers for crop damage caused by wildlife, such as deer, bear, geese and turkey. In 1983, the program was assigned to Counties. Instead of just reimbursing for crop damage, they also allowed for abatement that would reduce the crop damage. As a part of the agreement, public hunting would be allowed on the lands. Waukesha County became involved in the program in 1999. The program is funded by a surcharge on hunting licenses. Waukesha County contracts all the services through a USDA agency, Wildlife Services.

About 2000, the deer donation program started. It was a great free food source for the food pantries. Over 69,000 deer have been donated in total over a nine-year period. However, two years after the program began, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) became an issue. The donation program was discontinued at that time.

The State has provided funds for the DNR to study CWD. Out of that fund, the deer donation was able to continue by providing testing for every deer prior to donation. After State funding to the DNR was cut, a group called Target Hunger was formed with the goal of keeping the donation program. In 2009, after further cuts, the funding is being transferred back to the wildlife damage claims program. Counties are now being asked to get back into the program. A cost-sharing program has been set up, where Target Hunger will pay \$20 per dear toward the cost of testing before donation, and the wildlife damage claims program pays the remainder. Extra precautions are taken when processing the deer,

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and all deer for donation are tested. No deer in Waukesha County have been found to have CWD.

Lindquist stated that Waukesha County would be getting back into the Deer Donation Program. There is no liability risk to the County; no County budget change is involved. The agreement between the County, the DNR and Wildlife Services must be amended in order for the County to receive reimbursement.

Ruf asked if the County could refuse to participate in this program. Lindquist advised that he has checked with the food pantry, and they are anxious for the program to begin. The deer donation provides an excellent free food source in a time of increased need due to the state of the economy.

MOTION: In the absence of objections, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jeskewitz Secretary